

Merry Christmas!



The youngster was pleased but not at all surprised to find Santa himself behind the glass of our Penn Station information booth — in view of the time of year. The bewhiskered gent must be doing a good job, for information clerk Henry Deery goes unconcernedly about his duties.

Two Full Hours of Fun, Frolic Set for Party

A two-hour program jam-packed with fun, frolic and refreshments will be on tap at our annual Christmas party for children of employes at the Hillside Theater, Wednesday, December 27.

Santa Claus will be making his usual second trip to Long Island to visit with our youngsters. And the party-goers will be entertained with magic, comedy, marionettes, juggling, dancing and music.

Doors will open at 9 a.m. From 9:30 until the show starts at 10, Santa Claus will meet and greet all his young friends, while the midget clown, Charlie Silvern, roams through the theater to amuse the audience with his antics.

We'll have back as master of ceremonies that jolly genius of the balloons, Chick Darrow, whose wondrous figures made from balloons have delighted our youngsters in the past.

Also on the bill will be Dagmar, the Mystic, to confuse and confound us with his feats of legerdemain (magic).

The Almiros Trio — two lassies and a lad — will demonstrate the art of juggling with an agility and daffness almost too quick for the eye to follow.

Comedy and great skill will be combined in the act staged by the father and daughter

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PR Staffer Has New Book

"Once You Stop, You're Dead," a new suspense novel by Eaton K. Goldthwaite, public relations representative, will be published early next year by William Morrow.

The new book is Mr. Goldthwaite's eighth — and he has a ninth already in progress.

He has also written for magazines under his own name and under the pen names of John Wallace and Jeremy Rust.

Although this is his first novel in several years, over a million copies of his earlier ones — including translations in French and Norwegian — have appeared in print. His best known work, "Cat and Mouse," was a best seller in this country and England, going through five editions.

All Aspects of Yule Season Showing on Our Railroad

Practically every aspect of Christmas will be represented on our railroad between now and the time Santa Claus makes his rounds to Long Island homes the night of December 24.

At Hall and Jay towers at Jamaica and Harold at Long Island City beautifully decorated and lighted trees have blossomed. Next to the tree at Hall, members of the Track Department have set up a life-size creche.

At Penn Station, of course, Jim Kiebler is again at the keyboard of the big Hammond organ in our concourse, playing carols and other requests for our commuters. He started today (December 14) and will play daily except Sundays and Christmas Day through December 30.

Christmas music is also being heard at Jamaica station and Flatbush Avenue terminal.

Santa is making two advance trips on diesel locomotives to

visit children's parties on the Island. He'll carry on a local tradition by arriving on a diesel for the St. James Fire Department's community party

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Anchor Club Raffles Gobblers Tomorrow

Our Anchor Club will hold its annual turkey raffle tomorrow (December 15). The proceeds go to St. Mary's Home for Boys in Syosset.

Conductor Jack Sweeney is chairman of the committee and tickets will be on sale in the trainmen's room, first floor, Jamaica station.

Railroaders Collect Gifts For Men at Naval Hospital

Would you like to make Christmas just a bit brighter for a serviceman?

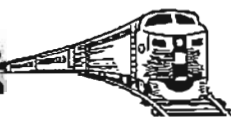
Two of our block operators, Jim Bolger and Bill Corcoran, are seeking gifts — such as playing cards, cigarette lighters, books, chess and checker sets and similar items — for servicemen at St. Albans Naval Hospital.

Such gifts — or cash contributions to be used for gifts — can be left at Room 308, Jamaica station, or with Margaret Osborn in the Superintendent of Shops' office at Morris Park.

Jim and Bill will deliver the gifts to the hospital Saturday, December 23.



LONG ISLAND RAILROADER





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A Guide To Live By

Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

James 2: 24, 26

What Do YOU Think?

QUESTION

What is the hardest decision you had to make this year?

WHERE ASKED

Penn Station

Charles Wellman, patrolman: Without a doubt, my toughest decision was whether or not to take the big step and get married. Well, I did — on July 29 — and it was a good decision. The next step is already decided — I'm going to be a papa in May!



Charles L. Naughton, usher: It wasn't so much the decision as the fight it started. I made the decision, and won the fight. When my boy came home from college, he had a decent haircut — no beard or sideburns — and that's that.

Klaus Pfeiffer, clerk: I have two hard decisions to make—whether to visit my parents in Germany and leave my wife and daughters here to celebrate Christmas without me, and whether the office could survive during my absence.



JAMES WATSON, red cap: As I remember, this was a good year, with no real hard decisions to make. But in my 27 years of married life, there have been some tough ones. And, luckily, the decisions I've made have turned out well.

Albert J. Stuhler, patrolman: I had to decide about painting my house and had visions of a tremendous job. But my wife pointed out the solution, so we had it contracted. Now it's done, without incident, and we're all happy.



Fan and Pan Mail

Dear Sir:

I have been a regular rider on the LIRR for a long time. However, I didn't really appreciate the wonderful service of your trainmen until I lost my pocketbook containing money and keys.

Trainmen H. I. Hawrey and William Smits found it for me and refused to accept a reward. They've also been wonderful in helping old people on and off the train.

Thank you and them. Mrs. ISABELLE DeGRASSE Bay Shore

Dear Sir:

I had left my wallet at home and was without funds, but your employes eased my embarrassment by extending me credit.

They couldn't have been more courteous. I am particularly grateful to clerk Paul Peters at Oceanside and trainman R. G. Frey.

I am very grateful to them and to their railroad. Miss VERNA O'CONNOR Oceanside

With Our Veterans — By Jeff Skinner

OUR RECENT column about Garden City and the old Stewart Railroad prompted Jim Corcoran, retired assistant freight train master, to write about a move during World War II.



Jim, who lives in Stony Brook, recalls a troop movement out of Mitchel Field involving eight Pullman sleepers and 100 flat cars which were to be loaded with anti-aircraft guns.

Believed to be the largest of its kind, the move was made on a Christmas Eve to Fresh Pond and then via the New Haven and Central Vermont Railway to the docks at Halifax, N.S.

THE MAIL contained something of hope, something of joy, and something of sadness. W. A. Tillinghast, who retired after many years as agent at Yaphank, is convalescing from recent surgery for cataracts. Write him at 88 Orchard Road, East Patchogue, N. Y. 11772.

And we're sorry to pass along the news from Alice Van Horn of the death of her husband, Wilbur H. Van Horn, retired labor and wage examiner for the PRR, who worked many years on the LIRR.

Nellie Hare writes from Florida that Dorothy King, widow of Harvey King, spent a three-week vacation with the George Hummells at Holiday, Fla., and that Mr. and Mrs. Ed Livingston recently spent a month in St. Petersburg.

Her letter brought the sad news of the death of Jules Happ, retired supervisor, who had served as vice president of the Suncoast Veterans for three separate terms.

A recent visitor to the Suncoast meeting was Harrison S. Moore, retired conductor, now staying in Largo. And at the November meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Risher, of Seminole, became members.

JAMES J. HANLEY and his charming wife, Anne, have asked me to thank the many

friends — both those who were there and those unable to attend — who helped him on the road to retirement. His party at Koenig's was a memorable affair.

WE'RE PLEASED and proud to welcome to the ranks of our retired veterans 26 employes whose service with the LIRR totals 945 years.

Topping the list is Joseph J. Sevenliss, track foreman whose service was 50 years and one month!

The others are: Kenneth G. Abrams, clerk, 47; William H. Atkinson, conductor, 50; Patrick C. Browne, gang foreman, 43; Henry L. Byrnes, engineer, 42; Ida Q. Carroll, clerk, 26; Alexander M. Cochrane, car repairman, 19; Patrick Dellacroce, welder, 47; Jess F. Elfreich, gang foreman, 36; Walter C. Gwynne, trainman, 22.

Sidney R. Harling, brakeman, 25; Oscar Johnson, utility man, 34; Rudolph Klima, usher, 24; Albert J. Kranz, conductor, 47; Albert Lupescu, supervisor, 37; Charles S. McGough, inspector-T&S, 50; Anderson W. Pollard, special services attendant, 6; Richard F. Rodriguez, conductor, 42.

Emma R. Rogers, law clerk, 48; Karl H. Seagord, bridge motorman, 30; Charles Seegar, Jr., electrician's helper, 22; Hiram F. Slocum, assistant freight train master, 47; Eugene D. Smith, conductor, 48; Ludwig Sonnenberg, electrician, 30; Olive C. Tietz, coach cleaner, 24, and Frank A. Thompson, block operator, 49.

WE'RE SORRY to report the deaths of eight of our veterans. They were:

William J. Chance, yard brakeman; Peter Devito, trackman; John H. Hampton, Jr., engineer; Andrew Hanak, electrician; Floyd E. Jarvis, clerk; Jacob Koabel, carpenter; Lorraine C. Kuhn, car inspector, and Stanislaw Rutkowski, machinist.

We extend our sympathy to their families.

AND TO ALL our readers, wherever they may be, we wish a merry and blessed Christmas.

The Garden Corner — By Al Casale

PRUNING to balance root and top growth is especially important when trees are to be transplanted.



The more top that is removed, the more time a tree or shrub will need to produce enough new foliage to resume growth.

With the new latex sprays used to prevent water loss, it has become practical to prune off much less wood than formerly.

Also helpful are such practices as wrapping the trunks, hilling up lower branches with earth and shading with burlap.

When you're pruning lilacs, you should remember they have very peculiar flowering habits.

If you cut any long branches while you're gathering the blossoms, that section may not flower again for three years.

One year is required to form the twig on which the flowers

will be produced. It takes another to lay down the flowering buds, and a third to bring these buds into bloom.

When cutting off faded lilac flowers, be careful not to remove the two fat buds on either side of the point at which the flower stem arises. These are next year's flower buds.

THE LESS that broad-leaved evergreens are pruned, the better.

Cutting should be limited to removing long, ragged branches that are trying to outgrow the rest of the plant.

On rhododendrons and azaleas, old flower heads should be removed as soon as they fade. But berried plants such as hollies and pyracantha must be left untouched if fruits are wanted.

HOPE EVERYONE has a Merry Christmas.



"Okay, go ahead — BE mad at the Long Island Rail Road!"

Strictly Personal About Long Island Employes

Station Dept.

By Dorothy Gerold

Congratulations to Edward Francis Holmes, clerk at Valley Stream, who's the proud daddy of a 6-pound, 5-ounce, daughter, Susan Helen.



Clerks in Jamaica were delighted by the visit of Anthony George, who dropped in to say he'll be returning to the railroad shortly after his discharge from the Navy.

Chris Thoeny's little girl, Mary, had a big cake and lots of candles for her third birthday December 2.

Ray Schulze is back in the Train Information Bureau after a brief California vacation and a long illness.

John Koster is in Florida for a month of vacation.

We extend our sympathy to Ida Blenk, Jamaica telephone supervisor, and her family on the death of her brother.

I'll be on vacation during the holidays, so I wish all of you a Merry Christmas.

Passenger Service

By Fred Villacci

I'm just back from vacation — if you call painting and plastering a vacation. That's why there wasn't a column last time.



Belated congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Serf on the arrival of a daughter, Patricia.

Our congratulations also to Tom Roche and his wife on the new arrival.

We wish many happy retirement years to Ralph Schelly and Jack Roser.



Elmer's Day — Elmer Teskey, retiring as a machinist after 40 years with the LIRR, receives a wallet stuffed with money from Anthony Scheltone, assistant general foreman — locomotive Shop. The gift was collected by fellow employes, who are standing by to wish him well. He'll retire his alarm clock and take things easy.

Send get-well cards to Walter Fink, Nick Cirillo and E. T. Hoffman, who are on the sick list.

Our sincere sympathy to Robert J. Colgan on the death of his father, retired engineer Joseph Colgan; to the family of Gil Fagan, and to Hank Keefer and family on the loss of his mother.

The following info about Al Grudzinski's family doings is what I'd like to get from everyone.

Al's son, Alex, who celebrated his 22d birthday November 25 in Nha Trang, Vietnam, has been promoted from airman first class to sergeant.

Al and Mrs. Grudzinski celebrated their 29th anniversary November 26 — just three days before Mrs. Grudzinski went to St. John's Hospital for minor surgery.

And Eleanor Grudzinski celebrated her 15th birthday December 6.

Merry Christmas!

Engine Service

By Don Teague

Bob Taplin and Ed Kohl are leaving us for the greener pastures of retirement after a total of 91 years of LIRR service. We wish them both long life and happiness.

It's good to see Ray Long and Bob Meyers back on the job after being on the sick list.



Harry Voizard is recovering nicely from surgery at Nassau Hospital and we hope to see him back soon.

We extend our sympathy to the families on the deaths of Ed Curry, engineer, and George Link, fireman, and to Harold and Richie Connor, both firemen, whose father died.

A Merry Christmas to all and their families.

Main Office Morris Park

By Margaret Osborn

William Birner waved goodbye to his mother as she boarded the plane for Bavaria to spend her first Christmas in Germany in 35 years.

Eugene Zeiner planned his vacation to coincide with the graduation of Lorraine Dick from the North Shore Community Hospital as a licensed practical nurse. She is the daughter of Leonard Dick, LIRR engineer for 30 years.

Frank P. Shea surprised his wife, Marie, with a dozen red roses to celebrate her birthday December 6 and their 11th anniversary the following day.

J. J. Benkert, car repairman — returning to duty after an absence of two months due to ill-

ness, reports that his new granddaughter is the doll of the family — and is she spoiled!

T. P. Kelly should know better than to bet that H. J. Dillman wouldn't bowl more than 520 — he actually scored 604.

The new dog house that Michael (Santa Claus) De Respino brought home for his puppy was too big to get down into the basement. Then, to add to his distress, his little bird died.

Two sets of books were returned for a better address. Can anyone supply the most recent whereabouts of Staff Sgt. Bennie G. Greene and Officer Candidate Nicholas J. Litterello?

Gene Maraz, Jamaica agent, and George Grimm, crew dispatcher's, have been very generous and helpful in collecting books for us to send to our servicemen.

Merry Christmas to all.

* * *

Property and Purchases

By Betty McMackin

We are all very happy to have Maryanne Burke working in our office.

Al Uber was a winner again in the Americana game. He keeps winning the single dollars — better than nothing.

Extra clerk Ronnie Scott is with us for a while — hope to have her stay around.

Happy to hear that Clare Cummings, daughter of T. P. Cummings, is back in school and feeling better. Stay well, Clare.

Happy December birthday wishes to C. H. Stoutenburgh and J. P. Salomone.

I'm signing off with a wish to everyone for a Merry Christmas.



Closing the Books — George D. Ahrens, who's retiring as a car inspector after 49 years with the LIRR, receives his final pay check from J. M. Nichol, general foreman — car inspection, while Vincent Viscuse, gang foreman, stands by to wish him well. Later, at a farewell party in Richmond Hill, fellow employes gave Mr. Ahrens a gold wrist watch.



Cutting Out — Barney Schwab, who's retiring as a sheet metal worker after 44 years with the LIRR, is congratulated by George W. Morris, assistant plant engineer, while R. J. Crotty, plant engineer, hands him a wallet full of cash, the gift of fellow workers in the Locomotive Shop who are gathered around him to say goodbye. Mr. Schwab joined the railroad in September, 1923, as a car shop helper.



Two Full Hours of Fun, Frolic Set for Party

(Continued from Page 1)

team of Rosita and Alberto, who balance and spin plates on long poles.

In an audience participation feature, Beau Jenkins will tap dance and play musical instruments with help from some of our youngsters.

Topping off the program will be Harvey Huston, whose marionettes are guaranteed to keep the youngsters glued to their seats.

In addition to the big two-hour show, there will be ice cream, cookies and orange drink for all.

And as the boys and girls leave the theater, each will receive a gift of a box of candy.

The theater is two blocks north of Jamaica station on the east side of Sutphin Boulevard.

If you haven't reserved tickets, you'd better order them from E. J. Zeman, assistant to the supervisor of personnel, in the Personnel Department on the second floor of Jamaica station as soon as possible. His extension is JA 655.

Veteran Trackman Honored at Party

Patrick Dellacroce, Sr., Maintenance Department welder who has retired after more than 46 years on the railroad, was honored at a surprise party sponsored by his fellow-workers at the Will Green restaurant in Ridgewood.

His friends in the department gave him a gold watch and Teamsters Local 808 gave him a traveling clock and a lifetime membership.



Journey's End — For having completed our maintenance of Way Department's four-year training program, George W. Anderson receives his electrician's certificate from William E. Hoffmann, supervisor—personnel, and congratulations from William R. Jenzen, engineer—electric traction. The young graduate joined the LIRR in November, 1963, as an apprentice lineman.

All Aspects of Yule Season Showing on Our Railroad

(Continued from Page 1)

this Saturday, and the Greenvale Civic Association will have him at its party Sunday.

At St. James, our miniature locomotive, "Buckshot," will ride Santa from the station to the Fire Department party.

Caroling groups will greet home-coming commuters with song at a number of stations on one or more nights during the holiday season.

And, in the festive spirit of Christmas, almost 100 of our stations are being decorated by clerks and agents and by garden clubs and community groups.

Also getting into the Christmas swing of things are commuter groups on several trains. They're planning annual yuletide parties on the rails.

At last count, there were already half a dozen parties scheduled and, as usual, the

5:14 Club on train 40 has the most elaborate plans. Its members have not only arranged for a live musical combo to play for their party tomorrow (Friday), they'll have Santa himself as a guest.

Yule Tree Moves Change Direction

Christmas-tree shipments on the railroad have taken a reverse twist.

The time was when car after car rumbled onto Long Island loaded with evergreen trees. Trucks have slowly eaten into the business, and this year we brought in only 10 carloads.

But there's a bright side. We shipped out 80 cars of artificial trees, manufactured by Living Industries of Central Islip and Standard Cellulose of Long Island City.

Hitting the Headpin

By Jerry Baldassarre

HOMER ALLEN of the Freighters rolled a 240 to take the individual single game lead.



Jack Brancato was hot on Homer's heels, with a 237. As his consolation, Jack also posted a 204 to take the individual high series lead with a 634.

Jack rolled a terrific 277 single — but it took place on a forfeit night and, according to league rules, can't be recognized as official. Official or not, that's bowling!

THE FIXERS regained the lead for a three-game series with a 2,646, beating out the Wheels by six pins.

* * *

ARTHUR GLATTHAAR had twin games of 202. Hitting the 200 plus circle twice were Charlie Palmigiano, Sr., with a 203 and 211 for a 600 series, and Marty Polan with 214 and 210.

* * *

ROLLING GOOD 200-plus games recently were Ed Gassert, 226; Arthur Cosgrove and Charlie Palmigiano, Sr., 224; Gil Cartogena, 220; George Lang and Gene True, 215, and Bud Campagna, 213.



Final Orders — President Frank Aikman, Jr., pauses to reminisce with James J. Hanley, retiring as assistant passenger train master after more than 49 years with the LIRR, and Mrs. Hanley at a party held in Mr. Hanley's honor at Koenig's in Floral Park. More than 150 friends and associates gathered for the occasion and presented Mr. Hanley with golf accessories, a money gift and the first lifetime pass issued over President Aikman's signature



More Patrolmen — Newest of the Long Island Rail Road's finest to complete the required 12-weeks course at the Nassau County Police Academy, Mineola, pose for their graduation picture with Nassau Commissioner Francis P. Looney (left) and LIRR Inspector Martin

T. Carroll. They are patrolmen Richard Schneider, Henry Richardson, Robert Vivano, Paul Fraker, Kevin Holder and Anthony Politano. Patrolman Politano also holds a plaque he was awarded for marksmanship — he had the top score in the class of 126 men from various departments.